



# CHESHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

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EDUCATION COMMITTEE

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## REPORT

FOR THE YEAR

1949

BY THE

Chief School Medical Officer



## STAFF

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### *Chief School Medical Officer:*

ARNOLD BROWN, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

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### *Deputy School Medical Officer:*

B. G. GRETTON-WATSON, M.A., M.B., B.Ch., D.P.H.

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### *Senior Assistant School Medical Officer:*

H. CRAIG, L.R.C.P. & S., L.R.F.P.S.

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### *Assistant County Medical Officers:*

J. G. BENNETT, M.D., Ch.B.  
R. A. BLYTH, M.B., Ch.B., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.  
ENA CANT, M.B., Ch.B.  
R. CARGILL, M.B., Ch.B.  
R. J. CLARK, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.  
JENNY CRAIG, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.  
AITOLIA ENGLISH, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., M.B., B.S., D.C.H.  
J. S. B. FORDE, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.  
CHRISTINA LAING, M.B., Ch.B.  
ALTA STOUT, M.B., Ch.B.  
JESSIE TOUGH, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.  
GLADYS WILKINSON, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.

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### *Divisional School Medical Officers:*

#### Altrincham—

D. LONGBOTTOM, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

#### Bebington—

D. O. MACDONALD, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

#### Cheadle and Wilmslow—

D. G. ANDERSON, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

#### Crewe—

J. D. INGRAM, M.D., D.P.H., D.M.R.E.

#### Deeside—

J. HATTON, M.D., D.P.H.

#### Ellesmere Port—

W. J. BIRCHALL, M.B., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.

#### Hyde—

F. W. C. BROWN, M.D., D.P.H.

#### Macclesfield—

H. R. DUGDALE, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

#### Mid-Cheshire—

W. S. SLATER, M.B., M.R.C.S., D.P.H.

#### Nantwich—

A. L. THORBURN, M.D., B.A.O., D.P.H.

#### N.E. Cheshire—

C. G. K. THOMPSON, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

#### Runcorn—

E. N. H. GRAY, L.R.C.P. & S., L.M., D.P.H.

#### Sale and Lymm—

A. T. BURN, M.B., B.S., D.P.H.

#### S.E. Cheshire—

C. D. CORMAC, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

#### Stalybridge and Dukinfield—

T. HOLME, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

*Paediatricians (Part-time):*

J. D. ALLAN, M.D., F.R.C.P.  
T. E. D. BEAVAN, M.B., Ch.B., M.R.C.P., D.C.H., L.D.S.

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*Ophthalmic Surgeons (Part-time):*

P. J. DEVLIN, M.B., Ch.B., D.O.M.S.  
A. HOLMES-SMITH, M.A., M.B., B.Chir., D.O.M.S.  
C. JACOBS, M.D., M.B., B.S.  
W. E. LAWSON, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

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*Orthopaedic Surgeons (Part-Time):*

S. O'DOMHNAILL, M.B., Ch.B., B.A.O.  
T. JACKSON, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.  
J. L. MANGAN, F.R.C.S.I.  
H. POSTON, M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O..  
R. ROAF, M.A., F.R.C.S.  
J. B. L. TAYLOR, M.B., B.Ch.  
M. E. WINSTON, F.R.C.S.

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*Ear, Nose and Throat Surgeons (Part-time):*

E. M. INNES, B.Sc., M.B., Ch.B., F.R.C.S.  
A. W. McCAY, F.R.C.S.

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*School Dental Surgeons:*

H. R. PARRY, L.D.S. (Senior)  
E. J. BERMINGHAM, L.D.S.  
E. BRADLEY, L.D.S.  
H. FOULKES, L.D.S., R.C.S. (Eng.).  
E. C. GRIFFIN, L.D.S.  
A. F. HELY, L.D.S.  
R. H. HURST, L.D.S.  
H. JACKSON, L.D.S.  
BETTY JACQUES, B.D.S., L.D.S.  
LISBETH KIPPEN, L.D.S., D.P.D.  
A. N. LEICESTER, B.D.S.  
F. E. LOCKWOOD, L.D.S.  
MURIEL MANWOOD, L.D.S. (part-time).  
H. P. MEEK, L.D.S.  
E. S. POULTER, L.D.S.  
ISABEL SAUNSBURY, L.D.S.  
H. W. S. SHEASBY, L.D.S.  
A. F. VERNON, L.D.S., R.C.S.  
DOROTHY WALKER, L.D.S.

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*Health Visitors and School Nurses: 93.*

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*Dental Nurses and Attendants: 22.*

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*Clerk-Attendants: 10.*

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*Speech Therapists.*

KATHLEEN JONES, L.C.S.T.  
MELBA LOWES, L.C.S.T.  
RUTH RITSON, L.C.S.T.

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*Chief Administrative Assistant: VINCENT O'CONNOR.*

# ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

## CHIEF SCHOOL MEDICAL OFFICER

FOR 1949

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*To the Chairman and Members  
of the Education Committee.*

Madam Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my annual report on the Schools Health Service dealing with the work done during the year 1949.

A full staff of whole-time Assistant Medical Officers has been maintained throughout the year, and of the 24 whole-time posts for Dentists on the establishment 19 were occupied. In the areas of Stalybridge, Dukinfield, Sale and Congleton, where the post of School Dentist is vacant, arrangements were made for one of the neighbouring School Dentists to do urgency work at stated times at the Clinics. It is most regrettable that these vacancies should persist, as regular routine dental inspection and the treatment of dental defects are most important for the maintenance of dental health amongst school children. Once there has been a lapse of time in routine inspection and treatment, the arrears of work accumulate, and several years elapse before sufficiently frequent visits to schools in the area can be instituted.

The western half of the County is now covered as regards speech therapy, but despite repeated advertisement, it has not been possible to fill vacancies for Speech Therapists in the remainder of the County. No replies have been received to advertisements for Psychiatric Social Workers.

One additional School Clinic has been set up at Bromborough. There is a serious lack of clinic facilities at Heswall, Neston, Hoylake, Marple and Cheadle, but sites are being acquired in each of these areas for the erection of Clinic Centres which will accommodate both the School Health and Maternity and Child Welfare Services. Dental Clinics were opened during 1949 at Timperley, Knutsford and Bredbury.

The projected buildings mentioned in the previous paragraph will each include Dental Clinics.



With a view to ensuring a quicker round of school visits by the School Medical Staff, Clerk-Attendants have been appointed to perform the clerical work of School Medical Officers and to assist them in other ways.

The offer by the Regional Hospital Board of separate contracts to the County Paediatrician and Ophthalmologist serving the eastern half of the County has necessitated less time being spent by these Specialists on School Health Service work.

A large house at Lymm has been purchased by the Education Authority as a Special Residential School for Physically Handicapped Children. The School is to be used for children of Secondary School age, and will accommodate in the first place 25 children, whose physical handicaps prevent them from receiving education in an ordinary school. Eventually, the School will provide for 40 Physically Handicapped Children.

I acknowledge with gratitude the help and co-operation which I have received from members of the Education Committee, the Director of Education, the County Architect, the Teachers of the various schools, and all the Staff of the Schools Health Department.

I beg to remain,

Your obedient Servant,

ARNOLD BROWN,

*Chief School Medical Officer.*

4th December, 1950.

## General Statistics

The Administrative County of Cheshire comprises 43 County Districts, namely 9 Municipal Boroughs, 24 Urban Districts and 10 Rural Districts.

The population estimated by the Registrar-General at mid-1949 was 801,790.

The total number of Schools in the educational area at 31-3-49, with their enrolments, was as follows:—

Primary	.....	.....	454	67229
Secondary (Grammar)	.....	.....	17	8284
„ (Modern)	.....	.....	53	16084

At the end of 1949, there were 75,656 children receiving school milk, and 51,585 receiving school meals.

Two schools were closed by the Chief School Medical Officer in 1949 on account of infectious disease as compared with 7 in 1948.

## The School Dental Service in 1949

Mr. H. R. Parry, Senior Dental Surgeon, reports:—

Staff—17½ full-time Dental Officers.

The normal routine inspections and treatment have been carried out during the year.

Of the 76,338 inspected, 39,118 were selected for treatment and 33,191, or 83%, actually treated.

Specials treated—6,763.

34,368 temporary and 4,215 permanent teeth were extracted and 3,505 temporary and 28,131 permanent fillings inserted.

Other work included:—

Root Fillings, 49;

Crowns Fitted, 23;

Partial Dentures, 56;

Orthodontic cases completed by County Staff, 207.

The amount of work completed during the year is very satisfactory, and quality has not been sacrificed to quantity, in spite of the shortage of staff.

For 5 districts, where we have been unable to fill a vacancy, a Dental Officer has been in attendance at least one session per week in each to give emergency treatment, and in two other districts the neighbouring Dentists have taken on extra schools.

With the staff at our disposal we now find ourselves in the unfortunate position of attempting to do the greatest good for the greatest number, instead of making all patients dentally fit.

In 1948, the number of fillings exceeded the number of extractions by 1,000; this year the extractions exceeded the fillings by 7,000—a most regrettable reverse.

The percentage of appointments kept during the school holidays rose to 62%, and it is hoped that this increase will be maintained from year to year.

I am pleased to report that the acceptance rate has risen to 83%, leaving only 17% to include:—

- (a) Children who attend their own dentist;
- (b) Children who receive no treatment at all.

This, I think, proves the confidence and happy relationship which exist between the Dental Staff and the Head Teachers, parents and children, and we should again like to offer our sincere thanks and appreciation to all the Head Teachers for their very willing help and co-operation.

Three grade 2 clinics have been fully equipped during the year, and two more are nearing completion and should be opened in 1950.

## **School Buildings**

New School Buildings completed:—

Helsby Grammar School  
Sandiway Primary School—Temporary hutment

New Buildings in course of erection:—

Bramhall Nevill Road Primary School  
Cheadle Brookhead Primary School  
Cheadle Hulme Thorn Grove Primary School  
Ellesmere Port Stanney Estate Primary School  
Irby Primary School  
Knutsford Secondary School  
Lower Bredbury Primary School  
Marple Rose Hill Primary School  
Pensby Secondary School  
Rudheath Primary School  
Sale Dunollie Road Primary School  
Stockton Heath Secondary School  
Timperley Heyes Lane Primary School  
Upton-by-Chester Primary School  
Weaverham Primary School  
Wilmslow Lacey Green Primary School



Alterations completed:—

Lymm Grammar School (Oughtrington Hall)—  
Extensions

Sale Cecil Avenue (Ashton-on-Mersey) Girls'  
Secondary School, completion of building

Sale Grammar School for Boys—Extensions (2nd phase)

Major Alterations in progress:—

Bebington Stanton Road Primary School—Additional  
Classrooms

Crewe Totty's Hall Estate Technical College—  
Extensions

Eastham Carlett Park Technical College—Alterations

Greasby Primary School—Additional Classrooms

Hyde Grammar School—Extensions

Macclesfield Parkroyal Secondary School—Additional  
Classrooms

Nantwich and Acton Grammar School—Additional  
Classrooms

Sale Cecil Avenue (Ashton-on-Mersey) Boys' Secondary  
School, completion of building

Sale Grammar School for Boys—Extensions (3rd phase)

Winsford Verdin Grammar School—Extensions  
(1st phase)

In addition numerous minor alterations and improvements  
have been carried out to School Buildings during the past year.

## SPECIAL SERVICES REPORTS

### Ear, Nose and Throat Service

Mr. E. M. Innes, County Ear, Nose and Throat Surgeon, reports that the clinical side of the second year of the County E.N.T. Service has progressed satisfactorily. The operative side, however, was interrupted by a rather prolonged stoppage due to the poliomyelitis epidemic, and this caused a steep rise in the waiting list.

As before, every effort has been made to give priority of admission to the most urgent tonsil and adenoid cases.

There has been increasingly close co-operation with the general practitioners in the treatment of deafness and otorrhoea, and close liaison with the Paediatric Service has been maintained.

#### ATTENDANCES AT E.N.T. CLINICS, 1949

Alsager .....	90	Hazel Grove .....	25
Altrincham .....	73	Macclesfield .....	170
Bollington .....	42	Middlewich .....	28
Cheadle .....	54	Nantwich .....	24
Congleton .....	33	Northwich .....	56
Crewe .....	94	Sale .....	19
Dukinfield .....	81	Sandbach .....	86
Ellesmere Port .....	190	Stockton Heath.....	44
Frodsham .....	39	Wilmslow .....	17
		Winsford.....	41

### Ophthalmic Service

Mr. A. Holmes-Smith, County Ophthalmic Surgeon, reports that the year 1949 has been one of progress along the lines reported last year, and that the clinics themselves have begun to receive the apparatus required for routine examination. It is his aim that all patients found to have any marked defect requiring treatment should be examined thrice in two years in order that the spectacles may be maintained in proper order. This proper maintenance of spectacles could be greatly improved were it possible to have a dispensing optician in attendance at each clinic, but the 'freedom of choice' of the Health Service precludes this.

"In the east half of the County," Mr. Holmes-Smith continues, "there are prospects of establishing an orthoptic department at West Park Hospital; this is a much needed addition to the clinics where a considerable number of squinting patients are seen and treated. Routine operative work has now begun at West Park Hospital. The year has seen a continuation and expansion of the co-operation of Chester Royal Infirmary and St. Paul's Eye Hospital, Liverpool.

in the west half of the County, especially for Orthoptic treatment. This service is most useful and thanks are due to both the Surgeons and Orthoptic staffs concerned.

“The ophthalmic arrangements of the National Health Service have caused some difficulty owing to the delay in producing spectacles, and this has caused concern in the case of squinting children and those with high degrees of refractive error. At the time of writing the position has greatly improved.

“May I lay stress upon the need for children to be seen as soon as any ophthalmic defect is suspected. Parents could be saved much worry especially in the case of squints and of children with low visual acuity due to refractive error. It is your ophthalmologist’s concern that the preventive side of the work should be developed as well as that of treatment and for this reason I am always glad to see any patient suspected of ophthalmic defect; time spent on examining the normal cannot be wasted if the abnormal case requiring treatment is thereby detected earlier.

“In conclusion may I again pay tribute to the able assistance which has been received from the County Health Visitors.”

#### ATTENDANCES AT EYE CLINICS, 1949

Alsager .....	188	Knutsford .....	19
Altrincham .....	144	Lymm .....	69
Bollington .....	99	Macclesfield .....	462
Bredbury .....	91	Marple .....	59
Cheadle .....	72	Middlewich .....	120
Cheadle Hulme.....	30	Nantwich .....	280
Congleton .....	126	New Ferry .....	472
Disley .....	7	Northwich .....	302
Dukinfield .....	536	Romiley .....	10
Ellesmere Port .....	377	Runcorn .....	686
Frodsham .....	147	Sale .....	391
Hale .....	99	Sandbach .....	400
Hazel Grove .....	117	Stalybridge .....	490
Heswall .....	166	Stockton Heath.....	96
Hoole .....	149	Tarporley .....	86
Hoylake .....	115	Wilmslow .....	148
Hyde .....	69	Winsford.....	221

## Paediatric Service

In the second year after inception Dr. J. D. Allan, County Paediatrician, reports a steady advance in the paediatric service.

The most successful feature has been the growth of the special clinics. These have been held regularly once weekly in Macclesfield and their success is best gauged by the fact that parents, often from long distances, have regularly attended. Children with various disabilities have attended, but in the main we have been concerned with chest and heart cases. At the chest clinic there has been an attendance of 750, and at the heart clinic 250. Much useful work has been accomplished. Most of the chest cases have been Asthma/Bronchitis, and by seeing these cases weekly at first and then at longer intervals, by careful assessment, and by treatment based on the detailed personal study of each case, many of these children have been substantially benefited. Some have been cured, most have been improved, and only a few have shown no response whatever. An important outcome of this has been that whereas before many of these children lost one day in three educationally, many of them are now able to attend school regularly. Lipiodol examination has been available and has been done on all doubtful cases. In this way seven cases of bronchiectasis have been proved. In two of these lobectomy has been carried out with excellent results. Similarly, purely allergic cases of asthma with definitive patch tests have been classified, and if severe enough admitted to the ward and given specific desensitisation.

"All in all, this particular clinic," says Dr. Allan, "has proved a boon; so many of these 'chesty' children are normally 'cast aside' and 'left to get on with it', and I feel that the further development of this clinic is highly desirable. As a great proportion of this bronchitis, with or without asthma, is sino-bronchitis, further facilities for liaison between Paediatric and E.N.T. Services are desirable. Incidentally, pulmonary tuberculosis has been chiefly remarkable by its infrequency—only three or four cases have come to light.

"In so far as the heart clinic is concerned, the real advance here is that we have been able to offer, in addition to the normal diagnostic facilities, that of angio-cardiography. In the past year we have done fourteen angio-cardiograms. The advantages of this procedure need no elucidation. In the general management of cardiac disability also, this clinic has proved invaluable.

"As well as the heart and chest clinics we have been able to supervise about twenty-five obese children, and without exception to reduce them to more normal configuration. Another small but very useful clinic has been for diabetics, of whom five are now under controlled weekly supervision.



"These central clinics have been established and run in addition to the routine consultative clinics throughout the county. It is my opinion that they have served a real need, and this is substantiated by the enthusiasm in attendance shown by the parents, who really felt that something was being done for their children—something more than "lip service."

"The paediatric clinic attendances for consultation have in general been satisfactory, Crewe, Sale and Hyde particularly so, though Winsford, Cheadle and Wilmslow have been poor.

"As last year, lists have been maintained by category of disease and disability for records.

"At these clinics one has the impression that certain aspects of child health are not sufficiently catered for, in particular the psychological. There is a great need for ready consultation by a child psychiatrist, and the provision of such a service would, I feel, be a great step forward.

"As last year, we have culled from the various clinics many children in need of hospital investigation and treatment, and all such cases have been admitted to the wards.

"Finally, clinical demonstrations have been run for the School M.O.'s as before, and close liaison has been maintained between myself and the County Medical Officer of Health in an endeavour to further the scope of the Paediatric service."

#### ATTENDANCES AT PAEDIATRIC CLINICS, 1949

Altrincham .....	34	Hyde, Parsonage Street.....	35
Cheadle .....	9	Maelesfield .....	4
Congleton .....	17	Northwich .....	13
Crewe, Ludford Street	75	Sale .....	60
Crewe, Stalbridge Road	79	Stalybridge .....	53
Dukinfield .....	24	Wilmslow .....	27
Hazel Grove .....	12	Winsford.....	22
Hyde—Bayley Hall .....	36		

#### Orthopaedic Service

Since 5th July, 1948, the orthopaedic service has been the financial responsibility of Regional Hospital Boards under the National Health Service Act. The County Council has been able to arrange for the existing clinics—the longest established of the specialist services—to continue unaltered, the specialist surgeons and the physiotherapists attending as before. The methods of ascertainment remain the same, children being referred to the surgeons by private doctors, or (with the approval of the private doctor) by School Medical Officers after medical inspection at schools or minor ailment clinics.



## ATTENDANCES AT ORTHOPAEDIC CLINICS

Chester .....	62	Macclesfield .....	251
Congleton .....	244	Bebington .....	1042
Crewe .....	786	Northwich .....	222
Dukinfield .....	5297	Runcorn .....	573
Ellesmere Port .....	726	Sale .....	117
Hoylelake .....	499	Stalybridge .....	479
Hyde .....	1116	Stockton Heath.....	287

Children attending for sunlight treatment are the responsibility of the local authority unless referred for it by the specialist. The following were the attendances during 1949 by school children at the clinics specified:—

Dukinfield .....	2444
Hyde .....	857
New Ferry .....	923
Sale .....	1252
Stalybridge .....	1164

# HANDICAPPED CHILDREN

Numbers Resident in Special Schools, 1949

## PHYSICALLY HANDICAPPED

<i>Crippled (non-tuberculous)</i>	Boys	Girls	Total
Carshalton, Queen Mary's Hospital	—	1	1
Croydon, St. Margaret's	—	1	1
Hartshill, Orthopaedic Hospital (3-16 years)	1	4	5
Heswall, Royal Liverpool Children's Hospital (3-16 yrs.)	4	4	8
Leasowe, Liverpool Open Air Hospital (2-19 years)	23	13	36
Marple, Children's Orthopaedic Hospital (2-16 years)	2	5	7
Oswestry, Orthopaedic Hospital (3-16 years)	22	26	48
Stanmore Royal National Orthopaedic Hospital	—	1	1
<i>Delicate and Various</i>			
Delamere, Jewish Fresh Air Home and School	1	1	2
Frankby, Torpenhow (7-13 years)	117	83	200
West Kirby, Children's Convalescent Home (3-14 years)	2	5	7
Heswall, Royal Liverpool Children's Hospital (3-16 yrs.)	11	11	22
Leasowe, Liverpool Open Air Hospital (2-19 years)	5	4	9
West Kirby Convalescent Home (3-14 years)	2	4	6
<i>Diabetic Hostel</i>			
Deal, Kingsdown	—	1	1
<i>Heart</i>			
Heswall, Royal Liverpool Children's Hospital (3-16 yrs.)	1	1	2
Leasowe, Liverpool Open Air Hospital (2-19 years)	4	3	7
Rainhill, St. Joseph's	—	1	1
<i>Tuberculous</i>			
Hartshill, Orthopaedic Hospital (3-16 years)	1	3	4
Heswall, Royal Liverpool Children's Hospital (3-16 yrs.)	3	—	3
Leasowe, Liverpool Open Air Hospital (2-19 years)	13	10	23
Marple, Children's Orthopaedic Hospital (2-16 years)	2	3	5
Oswestry, Orthopaedic Hospital (3-16 years)	12	5	17
<i>Blind</i>			
Henshaw's Institution for the Blind, Manchester	4	4	8
Liverpool School for the Blind	3	2	5
Preston School for the Partially-Sighted	6	2	8
Chorleywood College, Herts.	—	1	1
Chalfont Colony, Bucks.	1	—	1
Worcester College for the Blind	2	—	2
<i>Deaf</i>			
Royal Residential Schools for the Deaf	27	19	46
Liverpool School for the Deaf	5	1	6
Liverpool School for the Partially Deaf, Birkdale	3	3	6
North Staffs. Deaf School, The Mount, Staffs.	3	1	4
Boston Spa, Lincs.	1	1	2
<i>Epileptic</i>			
Soss Moss Epileptic Home, Alderley Edge	1	—	1
Maghull Epileptic Home, Liverpool	2	1	3
Colthurst House School, Alderley Edge	4	4	8

## EDUCATIONALLY SUB-NORMAL

Mary Dendy, Alderley Edge	56	35	91
Beacon Residential School, Lichfield	1	—	1
Vineyard School, Warwickshire	1	—	1
Besford Court, Worcester	1	—	1
Allerton Priory R.C. School, Liverpool	—	2	2
Rudolf Steiner School, Camphill	—	1	1
St. Thomas More's School, Stroud	—	1	1

## Physical Education

The Director of Education reports as follows for the year ended 31st July, 1950:—

During the past year continued efforts have been made, with very successful results, to develop the many and varied activities which are essential in a comprehensive scheme of physical education in schools.

This report deals with some aspects of the work, both in and out of school hours, and indicates the great interest now being taken by teachers generally in all types of schools in the physical, social and educational development of children through physical education.

### PHYSICAL EXERCISES

The old rigid and formal type of lesson is quickly disappearing and, especially in Infant and Primary Schools, boys and girls are being given every encouragement to develop, through individual practice, movements and skills which are suited to their physical and mental capacities.

Modern methods of teaching, which aim at giving the child the fullest possible experience of movement, demand the use of a good and varied supply of small equipment. Many schools have built up satisfactory supplies through normal requisitions and by improvisation. This has created problems of storage, especially in the older schools. In this connection, it is recommended that equipment should be stored in one central position if at all possible, and that it should be available to all classes. Special store rooms will be provided in all new schools.

The practice of changing into suitable kit for physical activities is becoming more and more widespread, but there is still much to be done in this direction in Infants' and Primary Schools, especially on occasions when the work is taken indoors. In Secondary Modern and Grammar Schools pupils normally provide themselves with suitable footwear and clothing for training lessons, but in some schools more encouragement might be given to pupils to provide proper kit for organised games such as football, hockey, cricket, tennis, etc.

During the year there has been some improvement in the provision of suitable playground surfaces in voluntary schools, and the Authority has continued its limited financial assistance to these schools, the playgrounds of which have never been provided with a hard surface. The problem still remains with regard to the unsatisfactory conditions of a number of voluntary school playgrounds which have been previously surfaced and which now require extensive repair.

## ORGANISED GAMES

These are not to be confused with games played out of school, as a voluntary activity, games usually played by a representative school team. There is at least one period weekly in all school time-tables which is set apart for games. For junior pupils minor team games and various skills with different types of equipment are played and practised as a preparation for the major national games which are generally introduced in the last year of the Primary School. In Secondary Modern and Grammar Schools, the major games such as football and cricket for boys are given pride of place. In Grammar Schools the major games for girls are hockey, netball, tennis and rounders, and in the Secondary Modern, netball and rounders, though hockey and tennis are included in some.

It is very pleasing to note that in many of these schools the organised games period is becoming more of a lesson than just a game. Coaching, which should be a major feature of the games lesson, is now much more in evidence and more and more girls and boys are receiving definite instruction in the technique and fundamentals of games.

The standard of football is generally very good indeed. Advantage has been taken of the Football Association's coaching scheme for schools. Cricket, while played in nearly all schools, still suffers from the lack of satisfactory pitches, especially in the Secondary Modern Schools. Every effort is being made to improve conditions for this important national game, and it is hoped that the provision of concrete practice wickets will be possible in the near future to enable more coaching to be given.

The shortage of suitable hockey grounds still remains a major problem for girls' classes. Like cricket, hockey needs a specially prepared surface if the game is to be played at all satisfactorily and with safety. During the year use has been made of the All England Women's Hockey Association's Coaching Scheme, whose official coach gave lecture-demonstrations at various centres in the County at the beginning of the season. Teachers supported these lectures with keenness and enthusiasm and also took advantage of similar lectures arranged by the Cheshire Women's Hockey Association.

Netball is still the most widespread of all games played by schoolgirls, and there are very few schools in the County in which children of 11-plus cannot play the game.

## ATHLETICS

More and more schools are giving attention to definite training in athletics. A large majority of schools organise an



annual sports meeting, and these meetings, which are always a popular school event, are becoming more successful because of the training given in the various events. Such meetings are very liable to become merely social events. If proper coaching and training in technique do not form part of regular training.

## DANCING

Dancing continues to play an enjoyable and important part in girls' physical education, and is also arranged for some boys' classes. It is virile and robust, even if often lacking in the finer points of technique.

## SWIMMING

The high standard of swimming has been maintained throughout the year, and very good results have been achieved. The primary aim is to teach as many as possible to swim, and where facilities permit of attendance at the baths for two or three seasons, more advanced instruction is possible, including life-saving work.

Swimming instruction is provided in 17 out of 18 Grammar Schools, 53 out of 54 Secondary Modern Schools, and in 158 Primary Schools. Every possible use is made of all swimming baths in the County and in order to cater for the more rural schools, special transport is provided. During the year 25,475 boys and girls attended baths for swimming instruction, making 238,051 attendances. Of 15,855 non-swimmers at the beginning of the year 4,988 learnt to swim. As a result of tests carried out by the Organisers of Physical Education, the following swimming certificates were awarded:—Advanced 233; 1st Grade 1578; and 2nd Grade 3462, a considerable increase on previous years. Examinations carried out by the Royal Life Saving Society resulted in the following most satisfactory numbers of awards being granted:—Elementary Certificates 112, Intermediate Certificates 149, Bronze Medallions 107, Unigrip Certificates 18, Award of Merit 4, Bar to Award of Merit 4, Bronze Cross 6 and Instructors' Certificates 5.

## OUT OF SCHOOL ACTIVITIES

Perhaps the most prominent development during the past year has been the increase in and success of many out-of-school activities. While such activities have been organised in some schools for many years, outstanding successes have been achieved during the past twelve months. These activities, in addition to their value physically, have a great social and educational value, and play a very important part in the development of the corporate life of the schools.



The high peak of attainment of schoolboy football in Cheshire merits special attention. Since the war, schoolboy football—the Association code—has reached a very high standard and more honours have come the way of our schoolboys than to any other County. Last year four Cheshire boys gained international honours, and a fifth was selected as reserve. This is an excellent record, and has only been achieved by good coaching both in and out of school time. Area football leagues for both senior and junior boys are running well, and the number of schools playing regular out-of-school matches has greatly increased.

Additional interest and encouragement in football were given through the schools knock-out competition for the Emberton Cup. 43 Secondary Modern and Grammar Schools took part in this competition, and the final match, won by Ellesmere Port The Grange Boys' Modern Secondary School, was an excellent example of a high standard of the game played in a really sportsmanlike manner.

In addition to the annual sports meetings held by many individual schools, there has been an increased number of inter-school meetings organised by teachers through the various District Schools Sports Associations. During the year, Cheshire was honoured as the venue for the All England Schools Athletics Association inter-county festivals in which boys and girls from 32 Counties took part. This festival was held at the Oval, Port Sunlight, which provided excellent facilities for such a meeting. It was only natural that the bulk of the work in connection with this festival should fall to the lot of teachers, especially those in the Wirral area. Billets were found for approximately 1600 competitors and the teachers in charge, and the reception and feeding of so many was carried out most efficiently. The assistance of the Authority in providing meals through the School Meals Service and the generous loan of schools for the use of competitors was much appreciated.

The Cheshire representatives acquitted themselves well, and won the Goodwill Cup for boys in the 15-17 years of age group, creating new records and gaining points for individual performances on national standards.

In swimming, there has also been an increase in the number of swimming galas, at which the more proficient individuals have represented their schools. The interest in such galas culminated in the Cheshire Schools Swimming Gala, the first to be held since the war. This gala, which is once more to become an annual event, was held at Crewe, and proved most

interesting and exciting. The standard of swimming was exceedingly good, and the Crewe and District Schools Swimming Association, which was mainly responsible for the organisation had the great satisfaction of seeing their representatives gain first place.

As usual much support was given to the Cheshire Schools Hockey Tournaments, organised by the Cheshire Women's Hockey Association. At the beginning of the season, when the tournament was held at Winnington, Lymm Grammar School were the winners, and at the end of the season at Port Sunlight, Sir John Deane's Grammar School carried off the shield.

Although girls' games are not organised on a league basis, a large number of schools arrange friendly matches with other schools in such games as hockey, netball, tennis and rounders. These are not confined to Grammar and Secondary Modern Schools, as in quite a few cases Primary Schools are now enjoying the fun and stimulation of netball matches with neighbouring schools.

Mention should be made of the increase in the number of inter-schools cricket matches and the interest created by the competition for boys from Grammar and Modern Secondary Schools for the Dewes Cup, the first winners being Stalybridge West Hill Boys' Secondary Modern School; the increased interest being taken in schoolboy boxing and the organisation of the first inter-schools boxing tournament; and the increasing number of schools which are arranging annual school camps and educational journeys.

There are other out-of-school activities arranged by individual schools, which space will not permit of being recorded, but all the many and varied out-of-school activities which are carried out regularly throughout the County, show the great interest being taken in this most important branch of school life. A vast amount of work is being done in all branches of physical education, reflecting great credit upon those teachers who give so much time so willingly and voluntarily on behalf of their pupils and schools.

# MEDICAL INSPECTION RETURNS

Year ended 31st December, 1949

TABLE I

## Medical Inspection of Pupils attending Maintained Primary and Secondary Schools

### A.—PERIODIC MEDICAL INSPECTIONS

Number of Inspections in the prescribed Groups—

Entrants	—	—	—	—	—	10146
Second Age Group	—	—	—	—	—	8954
Third Age Group	—	—	—	—	—	6835

Total — 25935

Number of other Periodic Inspections — 254

Grand Total — 26189

### B.—OTHER INSPECTIONS

Number of Special Inspections — 5997

Number of Re-Inspections— 6033

Total — 12030

### C.—PUPILS FOUND TO REQUIRE TREATMENT

Number of Individual Pupils found at Periodic Medical Inspection  
to require Treatment (excluding Dental Diseases and Infestation with Vermin)

Group	For defective vision (excluding squint)	For any of the other conditions recorded in Table IIA	Total individual pupils
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
Entrants	124	1926	2020
Second Age Group	773	1346	2066
Third Age Group	575	879	1400
Total (prescribed groups)	1472	4151	5486
Other Periodic Inspections	22	23	42
Grand Total	1494	4174	5528

TABLE II

A.—RETURN OF DEFECTS FOUND BY MEDICAL INSPECTION  
IN THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER, 1949

Defect Code No.	Defect or Disease	Periodic Inspections		Special Inspections	
		No. of Defects		No. of Defects	
		Requiring treatment	Requiring to be kept under ob- servation but not requiring treatment	Requiring treatment	Requiring to be kept under ob- servation, but not requiring treatment
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
4	Skin ———	122	99	13	23
5	Eyes—				
	(a) Vision ———	1494	502	397	229
	(b) Squint ———	123	166	18	84
	(c) Other ———	117	82	11	40
6	Ears—				
	(a) Hearing ———	38	123	16	42
	(b) Otitis Media ———	44	98	9	25
	(c) Other ———	66	36	11	9
7	Nose or Throat ———	894	2424	130	437
8	Speech ———	89	111	38	49
9	Cervical Glands ———	12	412	2	90
10	Heart and Circulation ———	97	352	17	74
11	Lungs ———	96	306	8	51
12	Developmental—				
	(a) Hernia ———	30	52	4	40
	(b) Other ———	25	59	7	12
13	Orthopaedic—				
	(a) Posture ———	255	182	12	42
	(b) Flat Foot ———	400	172	17	59
	(c) Other ———	138	98	8	27
14	Nervous System—				
	(a) Epilepsy ———	1	22	1	16
	(b) Other ———	9	90	2	26
15	Psychological—				
	(a) Development ———	39	185	20	213
	(b) Stability ———	3	100	21	46
16	Other ———	165	371	27	123



B.—CLASSIFICATION OF THE GENERAL CONDITION OF PUPILS INSPECTED DURING THE YEAR IN AGE GROUPS

Age Groups	No. of Pupils Inspected	A (Good)		B (Fair)		C (Poor)	
		No.	% of col. 2	No.	% of col. 2	No.	% of col. 2
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)
Entrants	10146	3448	34.0	6051	59.6	647	6.4
Second Age Group	8954	2999	33.5	5279	59.0	676	7.5
Third Age Group	6835	3007	44.0	3472	50.8	356	5.2
Other Periodic Inspections	254	115	45.3	135	53.1	4	1.6
Total	26189	9569	36.6	14937	57.0	1683	6.4

TABLE III

Infestation with Vermin

(i) Total number of examinations in the schools by the school nurses or other authorized persons —	241910
(ii) Total number of <i>individual</i> pupils found to be infested	6624
(iii) Number of individual pupils in respect of whom cleansing notices were issued (Section 54 (2), Education Act, 1944) — — — — —	518
(iv) Number of individual pupils in respect of whom cleansing orders were issued (Section 54 (3), Education Act, 1944) — — — — —	69



TABLE IV

## Treatment Tables

## GROUP I.—MINOR AILMENTS

(excluding Uncleanliness, for which see Table III)

(a)					Number of Defects treated, or under treatment, during the year
Skin—					
Ringworm—Scalp :					
(i) X-Ray treatment	—	—	—	—	4
(ii) Other treatment	—	—	—	—	23
Ringworm—Body	—	—	—	—	84
Scabies	—	—	—	—	104
Impetigo	—	—	—	—	1102
Other Skin diseases	—	—	—	—	1756
Eye Disease	—	—	—	—	1456
(External and other, but excluding errors of refraction, squint and cases admitted to hospital)					
Ear Defects	—	—	—	—	1465
Miscellaneous	—	—	—	—	15533
(e.g., minor injuries, bruises, sores, chilblains, etc.)					
Total					21527
(b) Total number of attendances at Authority's minor ailments clinics					72525

## GROUP II.—DEFECTIVE VISION AND SQUINT

(excluding Eye Disease treated as Minor Ailments—Group I)

					No. of defects dealt with
ERRORS OF REFRACTION (including squint).					4826
Other defect or disease of the eyes (excluding those recorded in Group I)					922
Total					5748
No. of Pupils for whom spectacles were					
(a) Prescribed				—	2895
(b) Obtained				—	1564

## GROUP III.—TREATMENT OF DEFECTS OF NOSE AND THROAT

					Total number treated
Received operative treatment—					
(a) for adenoids and chronic tonsilitis					929
(b) for other nose and throat conditions					31
Received other forms of treatment					106
Total					1066

## GROUP IV.—ORTHOPAEDIC AND POSTURAL DEFECTS

(a) No. treated as in-patients in hospitals or hospital schools	159
(b) No. treated otherwise <i>e.g.</i> in clinics or out-patient departments — — — — —	1951

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## GROUP V.—CHILD GUIDANCE TREATMENT AND SPEECH THERAPY

No. of pupils treated (a) under Child Guidance arrangements	108
(b) under Speech Therapy arrangements	241

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### TABLE V

#### Dental Inspection and Treatment

(1) Number of pupils inspected by the Authority's Dental Officers—				
(a) Periodic	Age groups	—	—	69575
(b) Specials	—	—	—	6763
(c) TOTAL (Periodic and Specials)	—	—	—	76338
(2) Number found to require treatment	—	—	—	39118
(3) Number actually treated	—	—	—	33191
(4) Attendances made by pupils for treatment—	—	—	—	43885
(5) Half-days devoted to :	(a) Inspection	—	—	631
	(b) Treatment	—	—	6168
	Total (a) and (b)	—	—	6799
(6) Fillings	Permanent Teeth	—	—	28131
	Temporary Teeth	—	—	3505
	Total	—	—	31636
(7) Extractions :	Permanent Teeth	—	—	4215
	Temporary Teeth	—	—	34368
	Total	—	—	38583
(8) Administration of general anaesthetics for extraction	—	—	—	3991
(9) Other Operations :	(a) Permanent Teeth	—	—	6608
	(b) Temporary Teeth	—	—	926
	Total (a) and (b)	—	—	7534





